

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:PSHANKLE

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DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

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O 182011Z FEB 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 036260

TOSEC 448

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC ADDIS ABABA FROM ASMARA

18 FEB 75:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0226

DEPT PASS AS APPROPRIATE

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ET

SUBJECT: ERITREAN SITUATION

1. ATTACKS BY INSURGENTS ON TRACT A (ADJACENT CONGEN) TRACT E (LOCATION 2ND DIV HDQS AND KAGNEW POWER PLANT), TRACTS C, F, AIRPORT AND EXPO SITE (LOCATION 1ST DIV HDQS) BEGAN APPROX 2025 HRS LOCAL.

2. VERY HEAVY AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE AT TRACT A. ILLUMINATION USED BY ETH NAVY AT TRACT A WHICH CONTINUED COUNTERFIRE FOR SOME TIME. DO NOT BELIEVE ANY DAMAGE TO CONGEN COMPOUND.

3. HEAVY FIRE AT TRACT B PROVOKED COUNTER FIRE BY COMMANDO POLICE PROTECTING TRACT B. DISTRIBUTION PANEL AT GENERATING PLANT TRACT  
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E TOOK DIRECT HIT. TRACT E LOST POWER BUT OTHER TRACTS INCLUDING

CONGEN KEPT POWER. HOWEVER, PHASING PROBLEM PREVENTED COMMUNICATIONS FOR ABOUT AN HOUR UNTIL CONGEN AUXILLIARY POWER BROUGHT IN. LIKE OUTBOARD MOTORS, AUXILIARY POWER PLANTS NEVER WORK WHEN NEEDED. TRACT B SATTELITE OUT FOR 4 HRS.

4. COMMENT: COORDINATED ATTACKS ON TRACT A, (READ CONGEN) AND TRACT E (READ POWER SUPPLY TO CITY OF ASMARA) SUGGEST INSURGENTS ALREADY REACTING TO NEWS STORY ON POSSIBLE AMMUNITION RESUPPLY BY USG TO EPMG. VISIT BY MAAG AIRCRAFT TO ASMARA BRING COMMUNICATIONS GEAR, CLASSIFIED POUCHES AND MAIL, MAY HAVE BEEN MISINTERPRETED BY INSURGENTS AS AMMUNITION RESUPPLY RUN. SHERRY UNQUOTE MAW

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TOSEC 448, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchantr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:PSHANKLE  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Film Number:** D750058-0024  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ERITREAN SITUATION  
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